

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-03 EB-11 COME-00 CIAE-00 INR-11

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R 010957Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6062

INFO AMCONGEN KARACHI

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BGEN, PK

SUBJECT: PATCHOGUE-PLYMOUTH PURCHASE OF LOOMS FROM PICIC

REF: STATE 146766

1. EMBASSY HAS SO FAR BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN MOVING GOP TO MAKE DECISION ON DISPOSITION OF THE CONFISCATED LOOMS. ADDITIONAL INDUSTRIES SECRETARY KURESHI CONTINUES TO REPORT THAT MATTER IS STALEMATED AT CABINET COMMITTEE LEVEL. WITH THE RECENT FIRING OF J.A. RAHIM WHO HEADED SEVERAL MINISTRIES INCLUDING INDUSTRIES, THERE IS NOW NO MINISTER OF INDUSTRIES AND THEREFORE NO OFFICIAL ABOVE KURESHI LEVEL EXCEPT PRIME MINISTER. IN ABSENCE ANY INDUSTRIES MINISTER WE BELIEVE NEWLY APPOINTED MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND PRODUCTION RAFI RAZA MIGHT HAVE MOST INFLUENCE IN THIS MATTER. CONSEQUENTLY, WE SEEKING MEETING WITH HIM. PAKISTAN IS CURRENTLY SEIZED WITH SERIOUS CRISIS IN COTTON YARN AND TEXTILE INDUSTRY (COUNTRY'S LARGEST INDUSTRY) AND THIS HAS CLAIMED MOST OF THE MINISTER'S TIME.

2. ON AUGUST 1 ECON COUNSELOR RAISED LOOM ISSUE WITH COMMERCE MINISTRY JOINT SECRETARY A.S. KAUSAR WHO HANDLES EXPORT MATTERS. KAUSAR SAID HE WAS ONLY SLIGHTLY FAMILIAR WITH THE LOOM ISSUE BUT PROMISED TO LOOK INTO IT AND INFORM EMBASSY. WHEN ASKED IF DISPOSITION OF LOOMS MIGHT BE RELATED TO

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OVERALL FINANCIAL SETTLEMENT BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH,

KAUSAR REPLIED THAT HE DOUBTED THIS WAS A FACTOR AT ALL. HE SPECULATED THAT THE DELAY MIGHT BE CONNECTED WITH TENTATIVE GOP PLANS TO ESTABLISH A JUTE INDUSTRY IN THE COUNTRY.

3. EMBASSY BELIEVES IT MIGHT ALSO BE HELPFUL AND APPROPRIATE IF PATCHOGUE-PLYMOUTH COULD INSTRUCT AMOCO'S OIL EXPLORATION MANAGER HOWARD DALTON TO PURSUE THIS MATTER WITH GOP OFFICIALS. WE HAVE URGED DALTON TO SEE GOP OFFICIALS ABOUT THIS, INCLUDING AT THE MINISTERIAL LEVEL, BUT OUR LAST READING WITH HIM INDICATED LITTLE HAD BEEN DONE. (DALTON MAY FEEL THAT HIS JOB IS OIL EXPLORATION AND NOT THE AFFAIRS OF OTHER AMOCO SUBSIDIARIES.)

4. WE WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF DEVELOPMENTS.
LUPPI

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